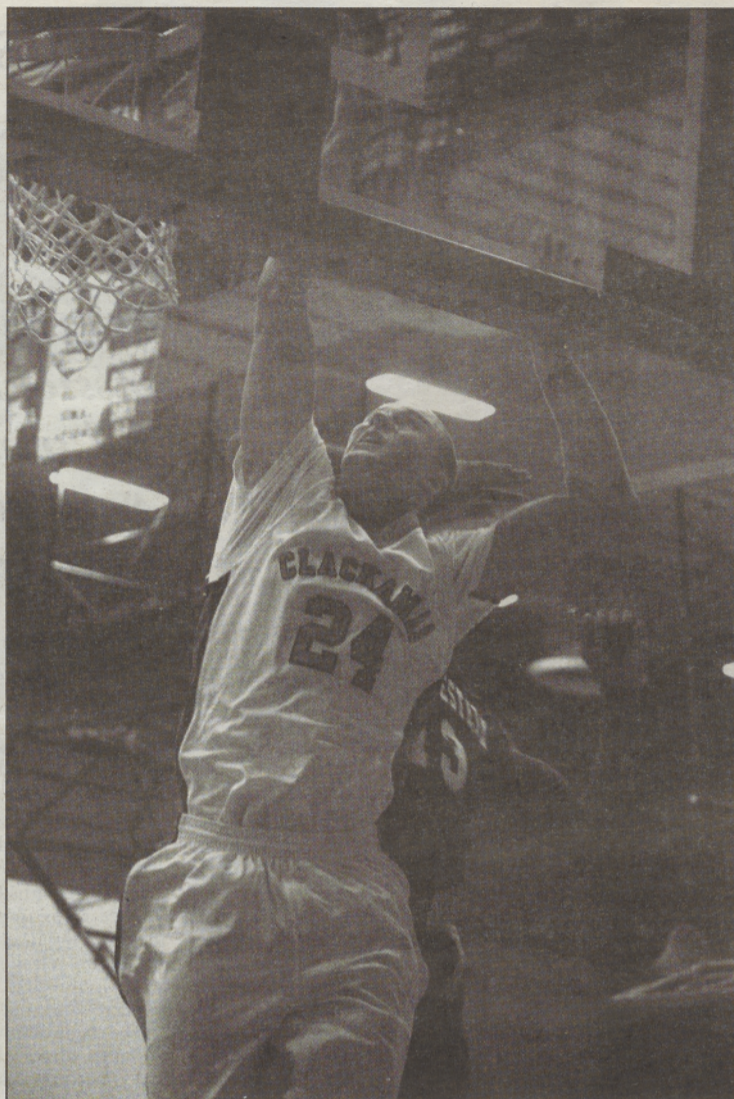




Paul Walter shoots over SW Oregon defense on his way to scoring 23 points. Walter has been the leading scorer throughout much of region play.



Sophomore post Brett Ball goes up for a rebound against SW Oregon. Ball got in foul trouble early, and played only 24 minutes. Ball ended up with eight points and ten rebounds.

All photos by John William Howard The Clackamas Print

## BASKETBALL: Cougars turn corner, win four in a row

Continued from Page 1

At that point, Clackamas went ice cold. Having turned the ball over just twice in the first nine minutes, they had six miscues in the final eleven, resulting in a flurry of points for SW Oregon. By the time the half was over, the Lakers had erased Clackamas' lead and built one of their own, going on a 28-8 run to close the half leading 37-30.

"I think it was a combination of things," said head coach Cliff Wegner. "I think it was some leaky defense. We got beat on transition a little bit by not getting back. We gave up a couple scores where we made a basket and they got the ball out and beat us down and either got an easy shot, a three or a lay in."

Wegner addressed the lapses at half time, talking with his team about missed opportunities, especially on the stagnant offensive end where mismatches in the post were going largely unnoticed.

SW Oregon began the second half by pushing their advantage to nine, leading 41-32 with just over 18 minutes remaining in the game. That's when Wegner noticed that the Lakers' two leading scorers had a weakness.

“

*I try to be extra aggressive at the end of tight games, but at the same time not force anything. I was able to get good looks.”*

Taylor Dunn  
Guard

"At that point, we had two of their guys were in foul trouble," said Wegner. "We decided to go at both of them and pretty soon they both had four [fouls] and they came out with about 15 [minutes] to go ... that's when we made our run."

And run they did. Down 41-47 with 15:17 remaining, Clackamas would go on to score the next eight points, taking the lead on a Paul Walter three point attempt from the near corner. SW Oregon had given up the lead for the last time.

What they hadn't given up was the fight. The Lakers fought back, but Clackamas pushed their lead to seven, at 58-51. That's when Taylor Dunn entered the game, ready to seal the deal.

"I try to be extra aggressive at the end of tight games, but at the same time not force anything," said Dunn. "I was able to get good looks."

Dunn's good looks scored him 19 points, a good night by most

standards. Then, just when his team needed him, Dunn carried the offense in the last ten minutes, putting up 15 of Clackamas' final 29 points in one of his best performances all season, including perhaps the biggest play of the game.

Clackamas was up 84-81 on a pair of Dunn free-throws with just 20 seconds left. SW Oregon had climbed to within one point on a pair of occasions, and had shown their prowess from the three point line all night.

SW Oregon's Joseph Moquino made an attempt to pass the ball into the middle, and Dunn saw it coming, leaping into the passing lane to steal the ball and earn him another pair of free throws. Moquino would nail another three from well beyond the arc, but that would be the Lakers' last gas, and they would fall 87-84, yielding not only the game, but their position in the southern region standings.

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**Women's Basketball**  
Next Up: Clackamas home vs. Lane 4 p.m. Saturday Feb. 11